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PATENT DEPARTMENT - 12-1
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APR 30 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Hancock : DECISION ON PETITION
Application No. 10/796,703 :
Filed: March 9, 2004 :
Atty. Dkt. No.: TIR 2904, 2905 :

This decision is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed March 6, 2007.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) is **GRANTED**.

This application became abandoned for failure to timely submit a proper reply to the final Office action mailed August 1, 2006. The final Office action set a three (3) month shortened statutory period of time for reply. Notice of Abandonment was mailed February 26, 2007.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by: (1) the required reply; (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date of the reply until the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional; and (4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section.

The instant petition has been reviewed and found in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b). Accordingly, the failure to timely submit a proper reply to the final Office action is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

This application is being forwarded to Technology Center 3700 for further processing.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3205.

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Office of Petitions